

In his address to Congress and the nation, President Obama acknowledged the pain that families throughout our country are feeling. Many of us are feeling the pinch firsthand. Maybe you or your neighbor lost a home due to foreclosure. Perhaps your friends or relatives have lost their jobs, or your own job may have been cut as a result of the economic turmoil.

Recently, I asked readers of my weekly enewsletter ([subscribe](#)) to tell me how they have been impacted by the economic downturn. I highlighted a few of their heart wrenching stories in the video below, and explained how Congress is working with President Obama to address these problems.

As your Representative in Congress, I want to make sure that my colleagues understand what we are experiencing in our Congressional District. As I promised in my weekly enewsletter, I recently [retold some of their stories](#) on the Floor of the House of Representatives.

Our country is going through some difficult times right now, but I am confident that we are charting a course to return to economic prosperity.

The innovative and creative ideas of Silicon Valley can speed our nation's recovery, and I hope that I can call on your help, from time to time, asking for ideas that can help bring about a brighter future for our children. In fact, I am currently working on legislation that was inspired by ideas submitted by constituents.

Now, in this time of economic turmoil, you can make a difference by proposing how we can make investments in our economy to rebuild the strength of our nation.

I encourage you to propose your ideas to me on [Facebook](#) , [Twitter](#) (using the #EconIdeas tag), or on my blog. In a future enewsletter I will report back about your best ideas.